has been found to range between 8 and 11 percent during the last five years, i.e., 1993 to 1997. The recent tragedy in Delhi due to consumption of adulterated mustard oil was an unusual case of conspiracy which is under detailed investigation by CBI. Meanwhile 84 cases of adulteration of mustard oil in Delhi have been taken up for prosecution under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules thereunder.

(c) and (d) The rules made under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act are amended from time to time to make them more effective keeping in view the changing needs. The Act already provides for summary trail and stringent punishment for adulterators. In cases of proven adulteration, the Act provides for a minimum punishment of six months imprisonment which may extend upto three years with fine. However, in cases where such adulteration is found to cause death or bodily harm, as would amount to grievous hurt, within the meaning of Section 320 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860), the adulterator shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than three years, but which may extend to term of life, and with fine which shall not be less than five thousand rupees.

Fund for Homoeopathic Dispensaries

*199. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided funds for setting up of homoeopathic dispensaries and hospitals, as per allocations in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the quantum of funds released and utilised;

(c) the number of homoeopathic dispensaires set-up by these funds which remain non-functional due to non-filling of the existing vacancies for homoeopathic doctors;

(d) by when the vacancies are likely to be filled; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALH AND FAMILY WELFRE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) an amount of Rs. 32.00 lakhs for setting up Homoeopathic dispensaries/units has been allocated in Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) to (e) The expansion of CGHS dispesnaries is dependent on the submission of the Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) Report which is under finalisation. After the report is received, proposals to create new posts have to be carried out as per the norms and the annual priorities determined by the SIU and CGHS. Alongside, a requisition has been sent to UPSC for filling up the existing vacant posts. Action to convene Departmental Promotion Committees to fill up the posts of Chief Medical Officer/Senior Medical Officer has been directed to be taken in hand.

Foreign Exchange spent on Import of Sugar

*200. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODLA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of foreign exchange opent on account of import of sugar during the last five years;

(b) what is the actual amount of foreign exchange spent particulary from 1.4.98 to 30.9.98 on account of importof sugar;

(c) what has been the total production of sugar during the last five years, year-wise and what is the expected production this year; and

(d) what has been the total consumption of sugar during the last five years year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER